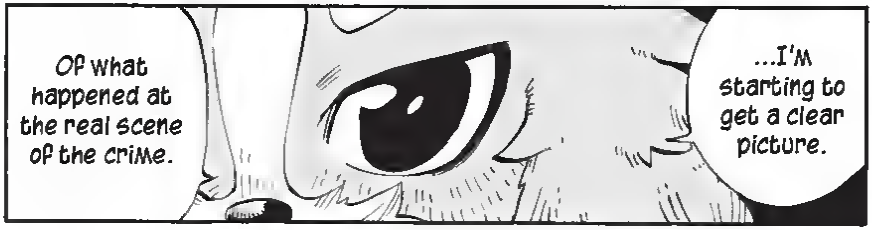
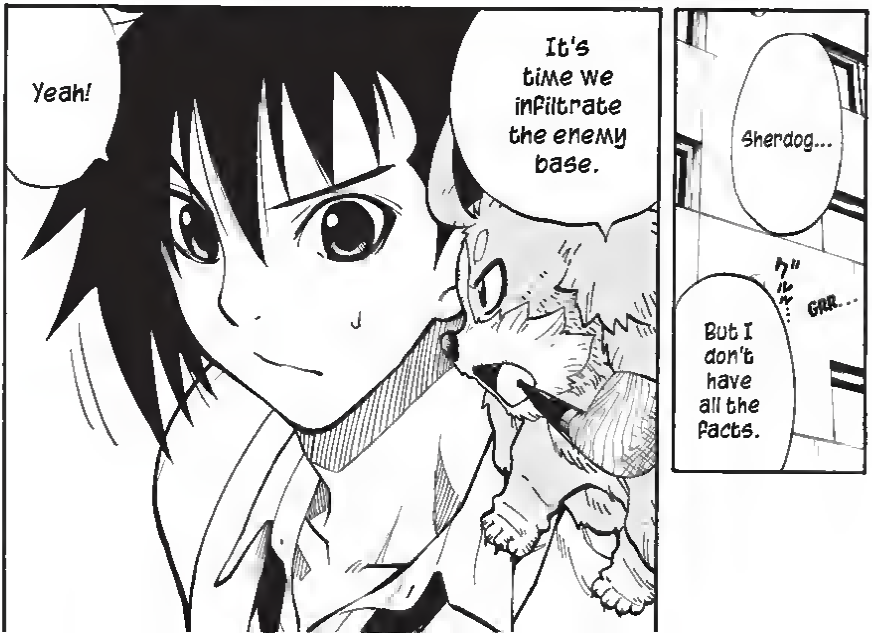
Thank you so much, Airin-san!
Thank you!
Well, you have been unusually smart lately, and you did discover the body...
If you think of anything, then I'll hear you out.

Case 5: ⚜ A The Missing Murder Weapon, Part 2

1
Let's see...she was walking alone down a dark street when a thug attacked her with the intent to do harm.
She resisted, and he struck her down, killing her...that's the gist of it.
Okay, Airin-nēchan. First, what do the police think about the crime scene?
Inspector Wajima.
I see. You may be right...
I don't think that's possible!
Sis!
The way she fell. Look...
What? Why not?
Well, that's not so strange.
No, but...
...
...
So she almost never wore them while working. She wore glasses.
That's weird...Moe told me that contacts dry her eyes and tire them out.
And we found these soft contact lenses.
We opened the vic's eyes to get a look at her pupils.
What?

Now, that is strange.
...What?

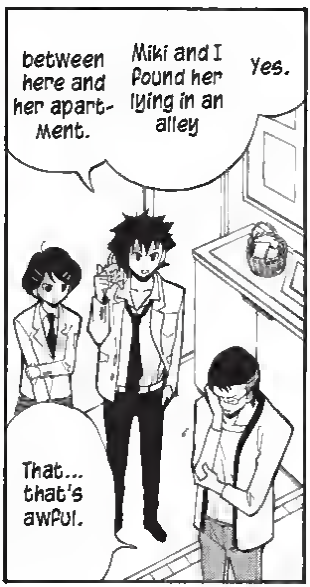

Of what happened at the real scene of the crime.
...I'm starting to get a clear picture.


Yeah!
It's time we infiltrate the enemy base.
Sherdog...
GRR...
But I don't have all the facts.

What?!
Asagi-san?
Mur-dered...?

Hm? Oh... When a girl is found lying in an alley,
it's only natural to assume there was violence involved.

...All I said was she was lying in an alley.
Huh?
To think someone would assault such a nice girl...


Yes.
Miki and I found her lying in an alley between here and her apart-ment.
That... that's awful.

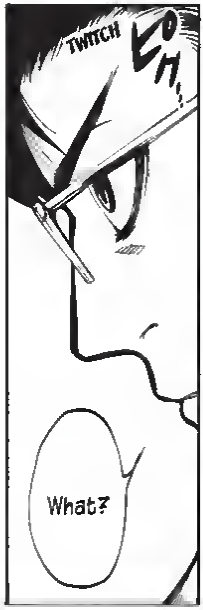
This is what I do.
...!!
CRIMINAL DETECTIVE SATOU
You figured out all that from that tiny piece of conversation.
Wow, that's a mystery manga writer for you.
See?
Well, I do spend every day thinking of murder scenarios.
!
Arf!!
That's, uh, pretty graphic...
...
Ugh...
What exactly are you doing here?
...So by the way.
Well, it's manga. You have to be able to see the face.
Why are all the bodies facing up?

If you just wanted to tell me what happened, then...
Uh, no, actually, we're her friends, so we came to collect her personal belongings.
Asagi's parents are overseas, and she was living alone.

GRIT
Letting a dog in my studio...

TEP TEP
!

Oh... in that case, come in.
Thank you.

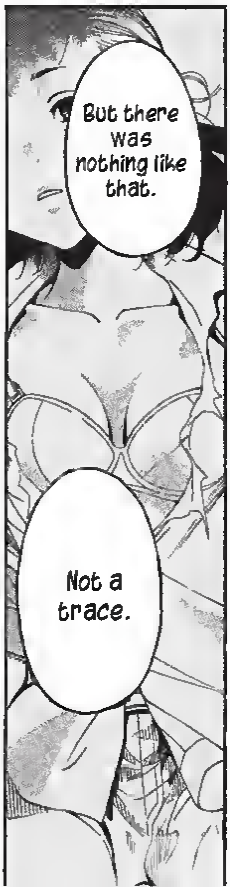

TWITCH
EH?
What?

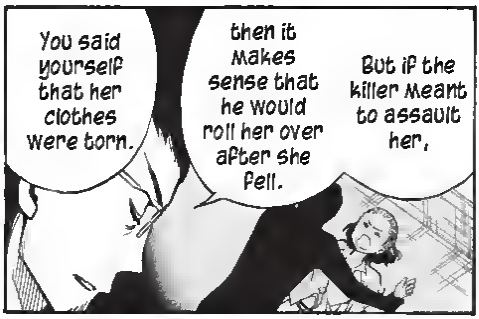
It might not have been sexual assault.
...
I hope they arrest the rapist soon...

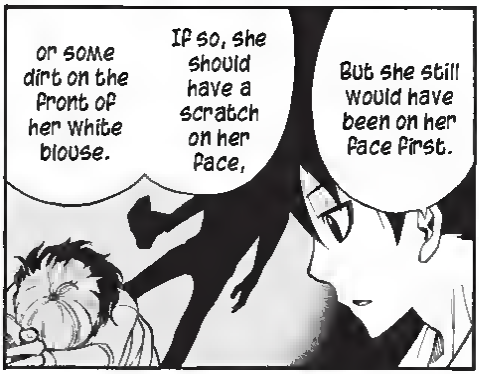
WHAT IS HE GETTING AT?
...Didn't fit?
But there was something that didn't really fit...
I mean, yeah, her clothes were torn up...
and the police are pursuing that line of reasoning.
Asagi was lying face up in the alley.
The way the body had fallen.
...
What's wrong with that?
I BETTER PLAY DUMB... JUST IN CASE.
I don't know...
As a *Mystery Manga artist.*
What do you think about that?

So I think she should have fallen face-down.
Oh, right, I forgot to mention.
Asagi was struck with a blunt object in the back of the head.

PUNK KID...
So what are you trying to say?


But there was nothing like that.
Not a trace.


You said yourself that her clothes were torn.
then it makes sense that he would roll her over after she fell.
But if the killer meant to assault her,


or some dirt on the front of her white blouse.
If so, she should have a scratch on her face,
But she still would have been on her face first.

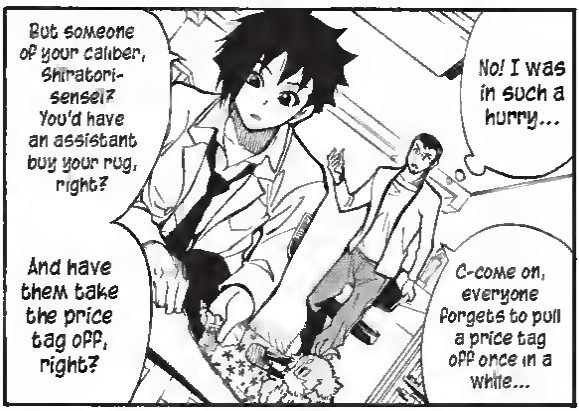
I think it's possible that Asagi was killed somewhere else,
then she was tossed in the alley
to make it look like she had been assaulted.
...
Ha ha ha... you're quite the super sleuth.
G-DMP...
But then... where was she killed?
She was here working before the incident...
G-DMP...
That's the problem.
Since her white blouse was still clean,
I think it must have happened indoors... but.
G-DMP...

WcDo.
that would end up getting her killed?
So where would she have gone after work
She had plans to meet up with us.
Do you have any ideas?
Shiratori-sensei.
THE LITTLE TWERP...HE DOES THINK I DID IT!
...
B-DMP...

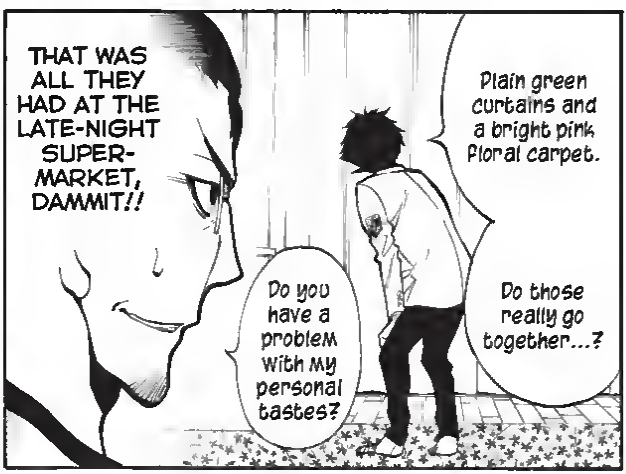
...Of course. Sorry to bother you when you're so busy.
I still have work to do.
...
All of her things are in that desk. If you're done here, would you please leave.
I don't know...I make it a point not to pry into my assistants' personal lives.
...?
I know what was wrong with the contact lenses!
ワン ワン
ARF
ARF
I have it, Watson!
TWITCH
Huh? What do you mean?
GULP
It wasn't *that* recently, but yes.
Like, really recently?
What? Yes...
Huh? But...
Did you change your carpet?
Shiratori-sensei?

You're sure it wasn't super recent?
YANK
See? The price tag's still attached.

...No, I bought that rug myself.
Don't you think you're being rude? Snooping around someone else's home?


But someone of your caliber, Shiratori-sensei? You'd have an assistant buy your rug, right?
No! I was in such a hurry...
And have them take the price tag off, right?
C-come on, everyone forgets to pull a price tag off once in a while...

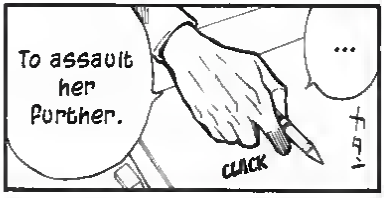
Good, Watson! You're closing in on him!!
ARF ARF
Next...


THAT WAS ALL THEY HAD AT THE LATE-NIGHT SUPER-MARKET, DAMMIT!!
Plain green curtains and a bright pink floral carpet.
Do you have a problem with my personal tastes?
Do those really go together...?

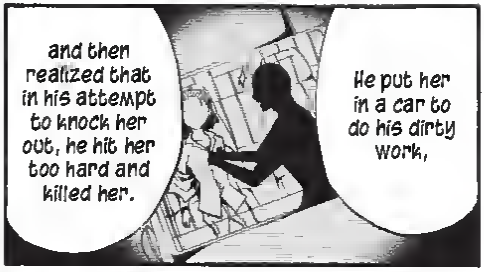
Oh really... and what might that be?
SOME-THING'S STRANGE HERE...
NOD
Arf arf!
From one of the crime scene investigators.
Actually...I heard something strange
IT WAS LIKE HE WAS TALKING TO THE DOG.
AND JUST A MINUTE AGO...
EVERY TIME THAT DOG BARKS, THE KID NODS AND ASKS ANOTHER QUESTION.
Oh! That's it!
She must have dressed up to see you...
But when we found her, she was wearing contacts.
Asagi usually wears glasses.

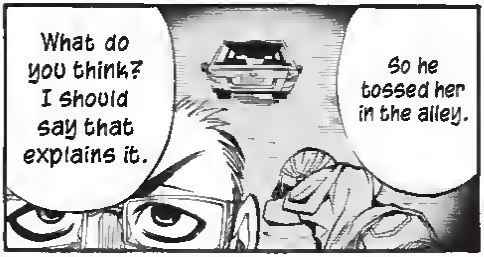
GLANCE
Arf!
Why go to the trouble of moving her?
If she were attacked in a bathroom, why not just leave her there?

She must have stopped in someplace to go to the restroom and put her contacts in...
that's where she was attacked, and where she fell.
The bathroom must have just been cleaned.
And that's why her blouse didn't get dirty.


...
To assault her further.
CLACK

What?
No.
It leaves some unanswered questions.


and then realized that in his attempt to knock her out, he hit her too hard and killed her.
He put her in a car to do his dirty work,


What do you think? I should say that explains it.
So he tossed her in the alley.

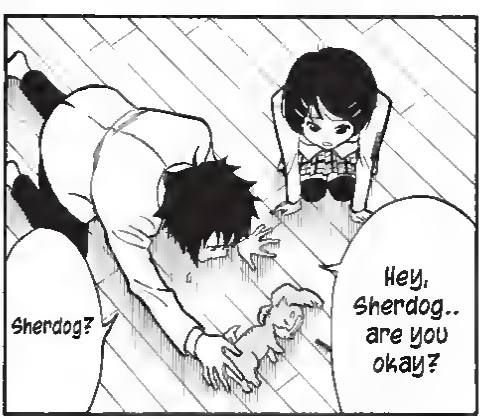
The contact lenses
were put in backwards!!
Wha...
NO!! I WAS IN SUCH A HURRY I FORGOT TO CHECK!
RUSTLE
THE... THE LIT-TLE...
she had been alive.
She would have noticed pretty quick that her contacts weren't in right if...
A weapon... or...
There must be some definitive proof.
SNIFF SNIFF
RUMMAGE RUMMAGE
GASP!

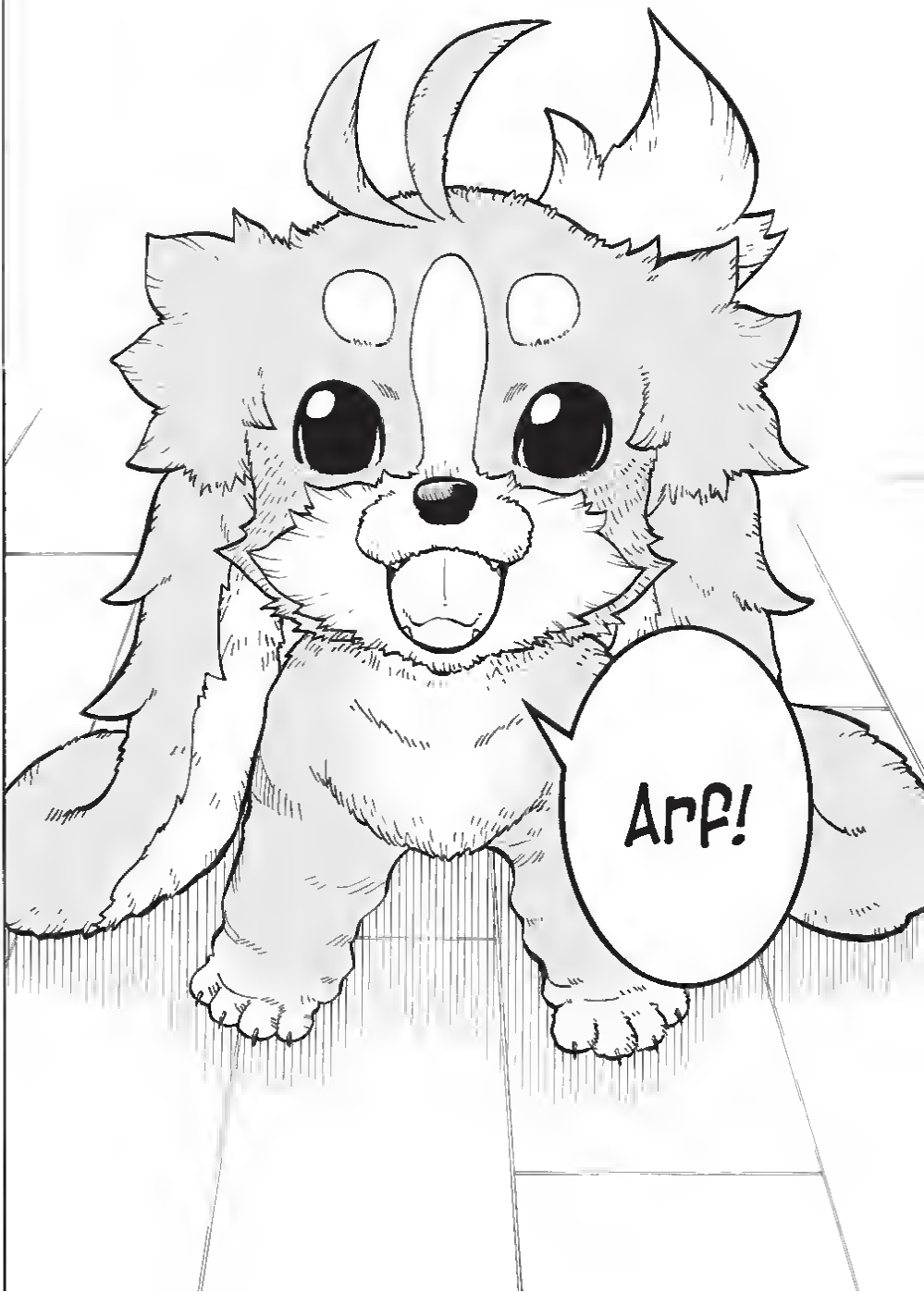
DON'T TOUCH THAT!!
SWOOSH
GAH
WHUM
Sherdog!

ZKR

Uh...I was worried that he would hurt My Manuscripts.
What are you doing, Sensei?!!
THUD
Sherdog-chan!!

47...
MMK...
Sher...


Sherdog?
Hey, Sherdog.. are you okay?


Arf!

...
Huh?
...H-hey, Sherdog?
Oh, good...
SCRITCH SCRITCH
GRAB
BLANK
Arf!
What's wrong with you?
You're acting like a dog...
Here's your pipe.
WAG, WAG
You're kidding... right?
...

Sherdog...
...reverted to a normal dog!
?